

Property Maintenance

Rubbish Pickup and Storage Guidelines

- Rubbish containers must be put out on the easement, not in the street, after 5 p.m. the night before collection day or by 7 a.m. on rubbish day.
- All containers must be removed from the curb by midnight at the end of your rubbish day and stored in your garage or behind the house.
- All trash must be placed in a can or tied up in bags or bundled when set out at the curb. Do not put out anything that can blow around.
- Trash cans placed at the curb must not be larger than 32 gallons/35 pounds and all the trash in the can must be tied up in sturdy bags – do not put loose trash in cans.
- Cans or bundled trash weighing more than 35 pounds will be left at the curb.
- All trash must be stored in rat-proof cans with lids in back yard (do not store any bags on the ground).
- All cans must be stored in the garage or behind the house. Larger cans may be used for storage of trash but only 32 gallon cans may be put at the curb for pickup.
- Failure to comply with these rubbish instructions may result in fines and a court ticket. For more information, call 943-2085.

Acceptable Materials for Weekly Curbside Pickup

- Trash bags (tied) 35 pounds each.
- Trash cans (32 gallon, 35 pounds each, and bags inside must be tied).
- Construction material (must be bagged or bundled and 35 pounds or less) – Limit 5 a week or 20 a year.
- Household furniture (except when moving out). Large move outs could require special pickup with charge.
- Household appliances (doors off of refrigerators and freezers).
- Carpet/padding (tied in 4 foot rolls and no more than 35 pounds each) – Limit 6 rooms a year.
- Garage doors (8x8 feet).
- Dirt/sod (35 pounds in cans or plastic bags) – Limit 5 a week or 20 a year.
- Bathtubs/sinks/toilets/laundry tubs (cast iron or cement require special pickup).
- Firewood (bundled and tied in 4 foot lengths no more than 35 pounds) – Limit 5 a week or 20 a year.
- Windows (up to 4 x 6 feet) – Limit 5 a week or 20 a year.
- Animal droppings – must be placed in doubled plastic bags placed in rubbish containers and set out with trash.
- Latex paint (if it is completely dried out). Remove lid. Place lid in trash can.

Special Pickup (\$50 fee and up)

- Large move outs.
- Excessive construction material – Private contractors are responsible for hauling away their own debris. (Roll-off Dumpster may be required). For a special pickup, call 943-2107. Any debris for pick-up **MUST** be placed in the street.
- Heavy automotive parts.
- Improperly bundled trash, yard waste, and construction material.

MANDATORY Recycling

Place only the following clean items in the City-issued recycling bin:

- Cardboard boxes (cut to fit bin), cereal boxes, pop can cases (**no pizza boxes**).
- Office paper – bundle with string or place in paper bag to prevent from blowing around.
- Household batteries placed in small clear plastic bag.
- Newspaper and all ads, bundled with string or placed in paper bag to prevent from blowing around.
- Plastic bottles (1 or 2 on bottom), discard lids.
- Glass bottles/jars (clear, brown and green), discard lids.
- Phone books/magazines/catalogs. These must be bundled with string.
- Aluminum and tin cans.
- Empty aerosol cans, discard lids.

Do not recycle the following: light bulbs, plate glass, drinking glasses, anti-freeze or oil containers, plastic bags, shredded paper, and lighter fluid containers. If an item is left in your bin, it is probably because it is not recyclable. For information or a new bin call 943- 2085.

Household Hazardous Waste Day

- NEVER set hazardous material at the curb.
- One day each spring, residents may drop off their household hazardous waste for free at the city's Public Works Yard, located at 2951 Greenfield Road. Check your city calendar or call the Department of Public Works for more information at 943-2085.
- Acceptable items include: car and household batteries, oil base paint, turpentine, antifreeze, gasoline, chemicals, pesticides, transmission fluid, poisons, asbestos, shellac, used motor oil, smoke detectors, etc. Residents must bring their driver's license to show proof of Dearborn residency.
- For more information regarding household hazardous waste disposal and additional dates and locations, contact the Wayne County Department of Environment at (734) 326-3936, Resource Recovery Coordinator.

Yard Waste/Brush Recycling

- The yard waste recycling program will run from the first full week of April through the end of November.
- Yard waste is grass clippings, weeds, leaves, shrub and brush trimmings (remove dirt from roots). Do not mix fruits, vegetables, or animal waste with your yard waste.
- Plastic bags are not allowed for yard waste.
- Yard waste may be placed loose in your own 20-32 gallon containers with a yard waste sticker on the lid. You may use yard waste paper bags, which are available at most major home improvement stores.
- Unbundled or improperly bundled brush requires a Special Pickup. For more information, call 943-2085.

Neighborhood Services (943-2161)

- The Building & Safety Department is responsible for enforcing ordinances related to the appearance of neighborhoods.
- All property owners or occupants must maintain their property, including keeping the grounds free of litter, debris, weeds and junk trees.
- Certain items cannot be stored outside, such as interior furniture, inoperable vehicles, garbage not in approved containers and construction debris.
- Firewood must be stored 18 inches off the ground.
- Homeowners could face penalties for violating city ordinances regarding property maintenance.
- Report problems to 943-2161

Weed/Litter Abatement (943-2161)

- The Building & Safety Department is responsible for enforcing ordinances related to the appearance of neighborhoods.
- City Ordinances require that all property owners or occupants maintain their property.
- Cut grass and/or remove all weeds from all areas of the property, including adjoining sidewalks, alleys, fence lines, parking areas and perimeter of buildings.
- Remove litter from all areas of property (pick up papers, junk, and debris).
- The City will cut any property with grass or weeds taller than 6", and actual costs, plus a \$75 administration fee, will be charged to the owner. Repeated violations could result in a court ticket.
- Report weed and litter problems to 943-2161.

Pest and rodent control (943-2099) (Vector Control)

Eliminate food sources to control the rodent population:

- Do not feed birds on the ground.
- Pick up dog droppings daily and do not leave pet food outside.
- Harvest ripe fruits and vegetables immediately from your garden
- Place all garbage in trash cans with tight fitting lids.
- Eliminate nesting areas to control the rodent population:
- Caulk/cement holes in the exterior of your home, porch and garage.
- Get rid of yard debris.
- Place wood piles 18 inches off the ground.
- Eliminate standing water.
- Cut tall weeds and brush.

Construction Permit Information (943-2154)

Report Problems to 943-2099 (Leave detailed message).

- Assume you need a permit for all construction projects.
- Permits allow city inspectors to ensure work is being performed properly and according to all applicable building and safety codes for the protection of you and your family. Inspections also help ensure that minimum standards are met, which protects property values for you and your neighbors.
- There are penalties and fines for failing to obtain building permits when they are required.
- Applications and plans are reviewed for compliance with current building codes and city ordinances. It takes approximately 5-15 working days for the application review process to be completed, depending upon the complexity of the project.
- Applications and instructions for permits are available at the Building & Safety Department, 4500 Maple, Dearborn, MI 48126 or online at cityofdearborn.org

Homeowner's Permit vs. Contractor's Permit

- If your contractors have asked you to obtain permits for work performed by them, they may not be licensed and they may be trying to absolve themselves from liability and responsibility for the quality of their work.
- It is not cheaper for a homeowner to obtain a permit.
- The timeframe for processing permit applications is the same for homeowners and contractors.
- You will be held to the same standards and same inspection schedule as a contractor.
- The City of Dearborn will not be able to help you resolve any disputes or problems you have with your contractor or with the work he/she performs.
- You will be responsible for correcting any deficiencies in the work performed.
- Automated Permit Scheduling System (943-2400)
- All permit inspections must be scheduled by using the Building & Safety Department's Automated Permit Scheduling System.
- You can schedule an inspection, cancel an inspection or retrieve inspection results 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Fence Guidelines (943-2207)

Fences are permitted to enclose rear yards or to be extended to allow the enclosure of side doors.

- Permitted types:
 - 50% open: such as cyclone, chain-link, picket and wrought iron
 - Board-on-board privacy fences
- Permitted heights:
 - Five feet maximum in residential areas, except when residential abuts commercial, whereby six feet is allowed

Homes For Sale (943-2120)

- Inspections must be made when homes are for sale.
- It is unlawful for any person to occupy or reoccupy a dwelling until a Certificate of Occupancy has been issued by the Building & Safety Department.
- Inspection reports are valid for one year from inspection date.

Residential Rental Property (943-2157)

- All non-owner occupied dwellings and non-owner occupied portions of two-family dwellings are inspected at least once every three years. In order to improve and preserve the integrity of our neighborhoods, it is important that rental home inspections are performed.

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